

**CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
July 17, 2008**

PRESENT: Diane Ripple, Jim Pearson, Ron Pupp, Caitlen Daniels, Raquel Mehring, Dennis Farrell, Kurt Gehrke, Jenny Hawes, Ed Cohen, Barb Holtz, Jenny Hawes, Joe Vitale

STAFF PRESENT: Peter Slesar, Antwayne Robertson

Ron Pupp called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. and introductions were exchanged.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The June minutes will be reviewed at the September meeting.

BOARD LIAISON REPORT

Dennis Farrell introduced Joe Vitale as the new Board Liaison. Dennis will serve as the alternate.

Dennis distributed the schedule of the upcoming Town Hall meetings with County Executive Dan Vrakas. There will be three of them throughout Waukesha County: Wednesday, July 23, 2008 in Mukwonago; Monday, July 28, 2008 in Waukesha; and Tuesday, August 5, 2008 in Menomonee Falls. Tuesday, August 5, 2008 is also National Night Out and there was discussion of the activities planned in Menomonee Falls and Waukesha.

The Department of Health and Human Services will be presenting the proposed budget to the Health and Human Services Board on July 21 and July 22, 2008. Dennis also shared information about a recent Wisconsin Supreme Court decision involving taxes paid by Walgreens. This decision, which results in some of these funds needing to be returned to Walgreens could have an impact on taxes paid by other businesses and would involve various governmental entities, which may be an additional factor affecting Waukesha County.

ISSUE SEGMENT

Dennis Farrell introduced the Menomonee Falls Village Manager and Jim Kirchberger of the Menomonee Falls Police Department. They will provide an overview of the Department's services.

The Police Department has a Special Investigations Bureau that handles the village's Child Abuse and Neglect and Sexual Abuse cases. They have seen a dramatic increase in these referrals over the years.

Three Police Officers are assigned as school liaison officers. Menomonee Falls has a very strong DARE program. The program allows police officers the opportunity to establish relationships with young people at a young age, and this helps as these young people grow older. The Police Department also has a good working relationship with the various agencies represented on the Child and Family Services Advisory Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jenny Hawes informed the members of the Mental Health Association Blue Ribbon Campaign “Who I Am Makes a Difference”. The campaign is designed to build self-esteem and committee members are encouraged to share these blue ribbons with the customers with whom they work with. Please contact the Mental Health Association at 262-547-0769 or by email jerdman@mha.wauk.org if you would like some blue ribbons.

Barb Holtz talked about the outreach being made to parents, child care providers and other caretakers who work with young children, emphasizing the importance of extensively interacting with them. This interaction helps in brain development and the ages of birth to three are key for this development. Barb is willing to talk to any group in order to get the word out. She can be reached at 549-5987 or barb@ppacinc.org. Barb also talked about the National Children’s Well-Being Study, which will examine the physical and social health of children. A number of factors have created some complications regarding the study, and the groups involved are working on addressing these factors.

Jim Pearson shared that August is Medicine Abuse Awareness Month. The focus is on over the counter and prescription medication abuse. There is a misconception that abuse of these drugs is less dangerous because they are prescribed and can be purchased from a pharmacy. It is a very serious concern and misuse of them is very dangerous.

Ron Pupp announced that the Nominating Committee will be reviewing the committee roster and reach out to members who have not been attending regularly. They will be given the opportunity to continue. If they are unable to do this, other members will be recruited.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on September 18, 2008 at 8:30 a.m. in the Board Room of the Human Services Center.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Approved on _____
(Date)